





Joint Information Center – JIC Release No. 6 September 20, 2019, 6:30 p.m. (ChST)

Pending Cases Being Further Investigated

The Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) thanks the Guam community and healthcare providers for the continued assistance in detecting suspected cases of dengue. There remain two confirmed locally acquired cases; additional suspect cases have been detected and reported to DPHSS. At this time they are under investigation and pending confirmatory testing.

"Although aggressive mosquito control efforts are ongoing, DPHSS anticipates the identification of other suspected and confirmed cases," said Linda Unpingco-Denorcey, DPHSS Director. "We remind the community to assist with preventative measures at home and to protect themselves when they go outside. A community-wide response is needed in order to minimize the spread of the dengue virus."

DPHSS continues its response to limit the spread of dengue with support from other GovGuam agencies, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization, Pacific Island Health Officers Association, and local health care providers. On Friday, efforts continued with the canvassing and notification of areas within the 200-meter radius of the confirmed cases to clean up any potential breeding sites. Targeted insecticide application will be conducted at consenting homes throughout the weekend. U.S. Centers for Disease Control Medical Epidemiologist Dr. Thane Hancock continues to provide clinical management training to healthcare providers and nurses. Additionally, Global Recycling is opening its doors this Saturday to assist the government-wide efforts to clear debris and reduce the number of breeding sites.

Our community can stop the spread of dengue virus by avoiding mosquito bites. Reduce the number of mosquitoes by eliminating mosquito breeding sites, which are primarily artificial containers that hold water where mosquitoes lay eggs.

See your healthcare provider if you experience any of the following symptoms of dengue fever:

fever

- aches and pains
- rash
- mild bleeding usually around the nose or gums

Visit your nearest hospital emergency room if you experience any of the following symptoms of severe dengue fever:

- severe abdominal pain
- persistent vomiting
- bleeding
- lethargy or restlessness

For more information, visit https://ghs.guam.gov/, or contact the Joint Information Center Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at (671) 478-0208/09/10. If there is an emergency, dial 911.

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